NEWS RELEASE

November 26, 2013

Contact: David Boyd, Public Affairs Specialist, (970) 876-9008

Seasonal closures to protect elk at Emerald Mountain begin Dec. 1

CRAIG, Colo. – The Bureau of Land Management is reminding people to observe seasonal closures that begin Dec. 1 at Emerald Mountain near Steamboat Springs to protect wintering and calving elk.

All areas south of the Ridge Trail in BLM's Emerald Mountain Special Recreation Area are closed to public entry from Dec 1 – June 30 to protect elk during their sensitive winter and calving seasons. This includes the Beall Trail and Kemry Draw. This closure corresponds with Colorado Parks and Wildlife lands to the east of the SRMA and the Humble Ranch property to the southeast.

"We saw a number of violations of this closure last winter even though the area was clearly marked. Violating the closure will result in citations and a minimum \$175 fine," said BLM Little Snake Field Manager Wendy Reynolds. "However, we do want to let people know that the Ridge and Rotary Trails remain open year-round for those wishing to visit Emerald Mountain before July 1."

For further information, contact the Little Snake Field Office, (970) 826-5000, or log on to http://on.doi.gov/14Q6KTz.

###